



The Washington Connection

Congresswoman **Candice Miller**

THE WEEK AHEAD

SEPTEMBER 17-23, 2006

Committee Schedule:

9/21—Government Reform Committee Hearing: Climate Change Technology Research: Do We Need a 'Manhattan Project' for the Environment?"

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This Week in Washington, D.C.

LEGISLATION, HEARINGS, MEETINGS, AND KEY ISSUES IN CONGRESS

This week in Washington, the U.S. House of Representatives will take up a plethora of important legislation, beginning with H.R. 6054, the Military Commissions Act of 2006, which is tentatively scheduled for debate on Wednesday. Rep. Miller, who is a member of the House Armed Services Committee, staunchly supports and is a co-sponsor of this legislation, which is designed to set guidelines for how suspected terrorist should be prosecuted as our nation fights the Global War on Terror. Passage of this bill would provide an acceptable framework for trying and punishing terrorists while at the same time ensuring they do not become privy to any classified information that, if leaked, could be potentially damaging to our troops. More information on Rep. Miller's position is

outlined below. Also scheduled for Wednesday is H.R. 4844, the Federal Election Integrity Act, which would require all voters to present photo identification before going to the ballot box. This will ensure that *only citizens* are able to vote, and that their vote is not diluted by the votes of illegal immigrants. Rep. Miller strongly believes that honest elections will significantly increase voter participation. More on this issue on page 3.

On Thursday, the House may take up an additional yet still unnamed piece of Border Security legislation. Potential bills include more stringent employee verification requirements, enhanced deportation of criminal illegal aliens, and other critical border security measures.

Military Tribunal Legislation Passes Armed Services Committee

Bill provides guidelines for prosecuting terrorists

Representative Candice Miller announced that the House Armed Services Committee, of which she is a member, has just passed legislation that establishes a fair and effective judicial framework for the prosecution of terrorists who are captured in the Global War on Terror. Rep. Miller is an original co-sponsor and voted in favor of the bill, which is expected to come to the floor of the House of Representatives next week.

"We are engaged in a different kind of war with a different kind of enemy," Congresswoman Miller said. "Our enemy does not

play by the rules and will stop at nothing to bring harm to American citizens. It is imperative that we have concrete and indisputable guidelines for which we can effectively try and bring terrorists to justice."

"It is my hope the House is able to quickly pass this legislation when it comes to the floor next week so that we can stop discussing terrorists' rights and move on to more important things, such as our pursuit of victory in the War on Terror."

The Military Commissions Act (H.R. 6054) specifically estab-

lishes rules, procedures, and the legal framework for trying accused terrorists, all of which are in accord with the Supreme Court's ruling in the Hamdan v. Rumsfeld case in June of this year. The bill provides a definition of war crimes, limits the scope of tribunals to unlawful enemy combatants only (which are defined in the legislation), eliminates any cruel and unusual treatment of detainees, and allows the accused to mount a full defense. It also prevents the leaking of classified information in order to protect troops in the field.

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House Passes New Border Security Bill

Includes provision for Northern Border 'Barrier'

Rep. Miller today voted in favor of a bill that calls for an examination into the implementation of a northern border barrier, which may include a fence, additional surveillance and UAVs, and/or additional

border agents. **This provision, which is part of the Secure Fence Act of 2006, is a direct result of Rep. Miller's efforts to raise awareness of the issue of northern border security in August, when she brought the House Armed Services Committee to Michigan for the first time in history.**

"In August, I was proud to welcome the House Armed Services Committee to my district--which shares a long liquid border with Canada--to investigate the issue of Northern Border security," Rep. Miller said. "As a result of that hearing, this legislation would require DHS to conduct a study that will allow us to field a state-of-the-art barrier system on the northern border."

"This barrier system is much needed because every day smugglers bring drugs, people and other contraband across our northern border and meet with little or no resistance," Rep. Miller continued. "Terror cells have been rounded up in Canada that sit just 3 hours drive time from my district. While it is very important to secure our southern border I am glad that this House is not losing sight of our Northern Border as well."

The Secure Fence Act of 2006 also calls for a fence along the Southern border, drawing directly from a provision from the House immigration bill which was passed in December of 2005.

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Rep. Miller observes the fence being erected along our southern border. She visited several southern border states with Speaker Hastert in July to better gage our border security needs.

Rep. Miller Applauds Passage of Voter ID Bill

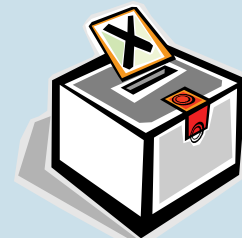
Rep. Candice Miller announced Thursday that the Committee on House Administration, of which she is a member, passed H.R. 4844, the *Federal Election Integrity Act*, which will ensure that only U.S. citizens showing photo identification will be able to vote in federal elections. **The bill is expected to come to the House floor for a vote next week.**

"As former Secretary of State of Michigan, I believe that election integrity is paramount, and this bill will

give election officials another tool to ensure that," Rep. Miller said. "I believe this bill has the potential to increase voter participation by making people more confident in the system."

"The bipartisan Carter-Baker Commission on Federal Election Reform recommended a national photo ID standard, and I agree with them," Rep. Miller continued. "I also agree with former Detroit mayoral challenger Freeman Hendrix, who, along with countless others, has called for the use of photo ID in elections."

"Also, to ensure that no voters are disenfranchised by this law, this legislation also authorizes funding for states to provide IDs for those who cannot afford a driver's license or state ID card," Rep. Miller said.



Rep. Miller Joins House in Honoring Victims of 9/11

Congresswoman Miller spoke out emphatically earlier in the week in favor of a House-backed resolution recognizing the fifth anniversary of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.



The resolution, among other things, honored the innocent victims that were killed that day,

as well as acknowledged the heroism and courage displayed by the police, firefighters, first responders, and ordinary citizens in the face of adversity.

"This resolution honors the victims of 9/11 and the sacrifice of so many who have fought for our freedom," Rep. Miller said during her speech on the floor of the House. "That horrible day broke our hearts, but out of our collective broken heart came everything that is great about America."

"Police officers and firefighters ran into burning buildings risking their lives to save people they did not know. And the passengers aboard United 93 who, knowing the intentions of the terrorists, built the resolve that they would not allow the terrorists to determine our fate," Rep. Miller continued. "They fought back to give America our first victory in the War on Terror, and this Resolution shows that we in this House share that resolve to defeat terror."

###

Rep. Miller Announces Passage of Two Wildlife Bills

Bills promote wetland and fishery preservation

Representative Miller this week proudly announced the passage of two bills that promote the activities of sportsmen in Michigan; one which preserves wetlands and the other which preserves fisheries. Rep. Miller strongly supported and voted in favor of both pieces of legislation.

The first bill, the North American Wetland Conservation Reauthorization Act (H.R. 5539) renews a 1989 law authorizing funding for wetland conservation.

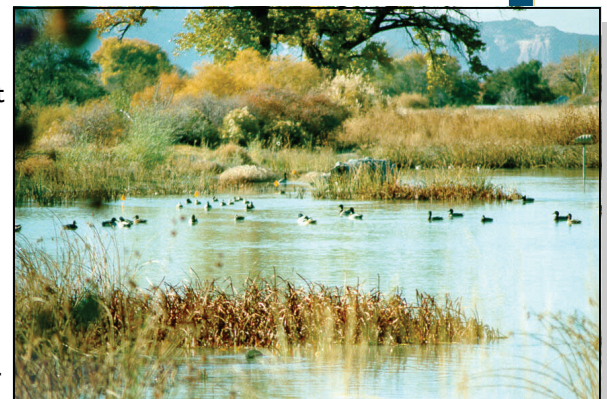
"Wetlands provide a secure breeding ground for many species of birds and fish, and I applaud the House of Representatives for acknowledging this," Rep. Miller said. "I am especially pleased because I know there are many sportsmen in Michigan that enjoy our wetlands and rely on them for

hunting and fishing. I hope passage of H.R. 5539 leads to greater wetland conservation and preservation in the Michigan."

The second bill, the National Fish Hatchery System Volunteer Act of 2006 (H.R. 5381) will help the sportsmen's groups in Michigan contribute to fisheries in the Great Lakes, as it allows hatcheries to accept gifts from individuals to specific hatcheries, carry out volunteer programs, enter into cooperative agreements with partner organizations, and increase education on the issue.

"This legislation will allow the public an outlet through which they can get involved and work with the government to preserve our precious fisheries," Rep. Miller said.

"Michigan has a huge recreational fishing industry which contributes millions to our nation's economy, so this is of vital importance not just to Michigan, but the rest of our country as well."



Rep. Miller supports the preservation of our wetlands



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Washington Connection Weekly



Rep. Miller's Radio Addresses will resume at a later date.



Jackson Citizen Patriot Op-Ed—Citizen-only counts

Supports Congresswoman Miller's Immigration Bill

Friday, September 08, 2006

How much sense does it make for members of Congress to represent non-citizens living in the United States -- whether legal or illegal? If you agree that's an illogical premise, then you'll be interested in the progress of legislation in the Michigan Legislature and Congress.

U.S. Rep. Candice Miller, Michigan's former Secretary of State and a Harrison Township Republican, is the sponsor of a bill that would amend the Constitution so that noncitizen immigrants, legal or illegal, would not be counted for purposes of apportioning congressional seats.

Back here in Rep. Miller's home state, there have been supportive efforts. The state Senate in May urged Congress to set congressional seats based

on the number of citizens, not persons, in a state. On Wednesday, the House approved a similar resolution sponsored by Rep. Jack Hoogendyk, R-Portage.

These various measures address a constitutional problem. The 14th amendment specifies that all "persons" of a state be counted. Currently, illegal immigrants count as "persons" for this purpose. A rising tide of illegal immigration has prompted concerns over that language.

Rep. Miller says, "A district which has tens or hundreds of thousands of illegal immigrants dilutes the voice of citizens in other areas of the nation and enhances that of those who live in such areas. In my opinion, that is simply not fair."

How so?

Every 10 years the U.S. Census conducts the count on which congressional seats are apportioned. Some states have large immigrant populations, which can add congressional seats while subtracting them from other states with declining populations (which has happened to Michigan).

But beyond the apparent unfairness, why should members of Congress feel any obligation to represent non-citizens' interests?

Take that to its conclusion, and there is an entitlement mentality created for non-citizens. Bad, bad policy.

We understand that amending the Constitution is a long process and the odds are against it happening. Yet if you look at the impact of illegal immigration, Rep. Miller's idea makes good sense.